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TWO CENTS.

CHINA TO SIGN SOON

Russian Official's Views Regarding the Manchurian Agreement.

NEGOTIATIONS STILL CONTINUE

Russia is Not Disposed to Modify Her Demands.

REGARDSTHEM AS MODERATE

ST. PETERSBURG, March 27 .- The correspondent of the Associated Press is informed on competent authority that the Russo-Chinese agreement will probably be signed shortly. However, the negotiations continue, and the result is not yet certain. While it is possible the details will be slightly modified, the arrangements will be substantially as demanded. According to the Russian point of view, an abatement of what are here regarded as moderate demands would be inconsistent with Russian interests, and would not sufficiently safeguard the frontier and railroad.

The draft of the agreement now being discussed does not mention and does not affect Mongolia or Turkestan. It concerns Manchuria exclusively. Mongolia or Turkestan have never been included in the formal draft, but they formed a subject, with Manchuria, of an exchange of ideas preliminary to formal negotiations. The agreement will be designed for the protection of existing interests and rights, and not for the acquisition of new things.

Russia Seeking Guarantees.

It is diplomatically admitted that Russia is seeking certain guarantees for future security, and it is positively certain that no powers have protested, even Japan refraining from this attempt to interfere between two other governments. However, the Japanese minister discussed this and other phases of the Chinese question with the foreign office.

The statement of the Japanese foreign minister that Japan will necessarily demand compensation if the agreement is signed has not made a decisive impression, for, as the authority of the correspondent of the Associated Press says, promises or threats and their performance are often quite different. Russia does not object to the principle of Count von Bu low (the German imperial chancellor), that the agreement will not diminish substantially China's ability to pay the indemnity since the arrangement does not affect the existing commercial rights of other nations in Manchuria. China will continue collecting customs dues in Manchuria.

Time for Signing Has Expired. PEKIN, March 27 .- The Chinese had not

signed the Manchurian agreement last night when the time expired.

The ministers of the rowers do not consider the murder of Kev. J. F. Stonehouse of the London Missionary Society, who was killed by Chinese brigands, fourteen miles east of Tien Tsin recently, affects the Chinese situation politically.

They are perfectly aware that the country around Shi-Nan is infested with robbers, who are, naturally, hostile to foreigners and would take such an opportunity, as in the present case, to kill one. Mr. Rockhill, the special commissioner of United States, says he does not consider it safe for people to travel alone in the country districts, and guards cannot be surplied to the missionaries. Consequently those going into the country take considerable risk. The district in which the murler was committed is policed by foreign troops. Therefore, China is not officially The foreign troops practically gutted Shi-Nan of everything worth taking all foreigners. The missionaries attribute the murder to the leniency of the powers toward China, which makes them seem to The ministers have many different views

on the indemnity question, which may re-sult in considerable delay in the negotiations on that subject.

Imperial Edict Against Signing

LONDON, March 27 .- The officials of the Japanese embassy confirm the report that an imperial decree has been issued by the court at Sian-Fu, through Liu Kun Yi, the Viceroy of Nankin, ordering that the Manchurian convention should not be signed March 26, the date fixed by Russia. An intimation of this decree has been telegraphed to the various governments con-

ENGLAND ENTERS PROTEST.

Objects to China Making Treaty Dur-

ing the Present Troubles. The British government has made a pro test against China's making a convention with any power touching territorial or financial affairs until the present troubles in China are settled. The fact of the British protest was made known here for the first time today by a dispatch from one of the foreign offices of Europe. It states that the protest was made through Sir Ernest Satowe, the British minister at Pekin. It does not state when the representations were made, but from the fact that the dispatch was received in Wasi ington today it is taken that the protest Although the Russian agreement is not spe-British protest against the convention with any power touching territorial or financial affairs is directed against the

very much like that of Secretary Hay in the American protest. The effect of the British action is to place the United States, Japan and Great Britain in formal opposition to the signing of a separate conven with any power pending the settlement of the Chinese troubles. The course of Great Britain is the more

significant from the fact that that government and Germany have a written alliance relating to Chinese affairs.

Why Treaty Has Not Been Signed.

The concurrence of these protests probably explains why the Manchurian agreement has not been signed. There was no official information received here today, at the State Department or at any of the foreign establishments, as to whether the agreement had been signed or rejected. The press dispatch indicating that on the Chinese viceroys had declared that the agreement would not be signed was

ceived with evident satisfaction in those

quarters where opposition to the Russian move has been most emphatic. There was something of a stir in diplomatic quarters over the report, from government sources, that the United States was considering the advisability of Russia directly on the subject. Heretofore the American objections to the ed to China, she being urged not to sign an agreement of this character. were furnished the Russian authorities and yet the protest in form has been to China and not to Russia. Several of the oreign representatives advised their gov ernments that this step was contemplated by the United States, but there is no ofcial information available as to how far the consideration of the move has pro-

RULINGS BY THE COMMISSIONER OF INTERNAL REVENUE.

Legacy for Literary, Charitable or Educational Uses Exempt From Tax -"Bucket Shop" Transactions.

The commissioner of internal revenue has held that a legacy for literary, charitable or educational uses on which tax has not been paid prior to March 1, 1901, is exempt from tax. This decision was made in the case of a legacy to the Philadelphia School of Design for Women.

The commissioner has also accepted the ruling of the United States circuit court of appeals for the ninth circuit, to the effect that "goods are offered for sale" at the place where they are kept for sale and where a sale may be effected. They are not offered for sale elsewhere by sending abroad an agent with samples or by establishing an office for the purpose of taking orders.

Transactions in Stocks.

The commissioner has promulgated the recent decision of the United States circuit court of appeals, third circuit, which held that no stamp tax accrues on a presumptive resale of stock where bucket shop transactions are settled by payment of differences. This decision will be followed by the internal revenue officers in disposing of all similar questions.

The commissioner also has held that there is nothing in paragraph 3 of schedule A, act of March 2, 1901, which implies that a purchase or sale of stocks must be presumed and a written memorandum delivered when a transaction is closed or terminated. On the other hand, the act pre supposes that transactions are closed without such memorandum of purchase or sale, because they are made with the intent that they may be closed, adjusted or settled according to or with reference to the pub lic market quotations of prices, or with the intent that they shall be deemed closed or terminated when the public market quotations shall reach a certain figure. It is only original transactions, either by pretended purchase or sale, that require writ-ten stamped memorandum to be delivered to the other party under said paragraph. He also decides that the provision in regard to keeping books in paragraph 3 ap plies to all persons who do any such busi ness as is described in said paragraph, whether such persons are also engaged in business other than that of a bucket shop

Tax on Tobacco and Cigars.

The commissioner has issued rules and regulations concerning taxes on tobacco. cigars and cigarettes and relating to rebate of taxes on tobacco, snuff and cigars held by manufacturers and dealers on the 1st day of July under the act of March 2, 1901. A new series of internal revenue stamps will be prepared and issued for the payment of taxes on cigars and small eigarettes at the new rates. These stamps will not be sold or delivered to manufacturers or importers of eigars prior to July 1.

DOES NOT INTEND TO RESIGN.

The Postmaster General, at No Time Has Had Such a Purpose.

Mr. Charles Emory Smith, Postmaster General, said to a reporter for The Star today that it is not his intention to resign. There was called to the notice of Mr Smith a number of articles which have recently appeared in various newspapers, and in which statements were made to the effect that he would resign, that he desired a cabinet position carrying with it greater honors and fewer burdens, and that the demands of his private business were such that he must leave public office.

Mr. Smith said: Whenever I have been asked the ques tion, and I have been asked it a good many times, I have replied that I do not intend to resign, and that at no time during my service as Postmaster General have I had such intention. If you wish to, you may say again that I do not intend to resign." Mr. Smith made this statement with quiet emphasis.

"You will not say." Mr. Smith was asked "that you will not resign?"
"No." he answered. "No public man could make a statement of that character with confidence in its accuracy. We do for us. I will say again, though, that I reason which would impel me to resign, and that every one of these stories setting

forth that I contemplate tendering my

resignation is without foundation in fact.'

WANT CHEAPER FOOD PRODUCTS Movement in Germany Against Higher Tariff on American Grain.

While the German agrarians are viewing with alarm the adoption of American food products in the empire and are striving for an increase in the tariff on American grain. there is a strong feeling in favor of the cheapening of food products throughout Germany, according to a communication received at the State Department from United States Consul Harris at Mannheim As best describing this feeling the consul quotes a petition circulating in Mannheir against any increase of the tariff on grain. press, the consul states, and is addressed to the reichstag. Among other things i states:

great predominating majority of the German people, the millions of German laborers, mechanics, office employes, mer chants and husbandmen have the deepes interest that the cost of the necessaries of subsistence shall not be increased by measure which can profit only a small number of well-to-do land proprietors and must bring with it the great disadvantage of endangering our export trade and impairing our commercial relations in other

NEW ARMY REGULATIONS.

Conditions.

Col. Sanger, assistant secretary of war Col. George B. Davis of the judge advocate general's department, and other officers in regulations. Since the last revision of the regulations many changes have been made by orders and circulars of the War Department, a number of them since troops occupied distant territory. The old regulations are not considered available for the practical work in the department. The modifications made by the army reorganiza tion law will be made part of the new regulations. Many changes are necessary, on account of the complete reorganization of the artillery arm of the service.

Stock Poisoning Plants.

There will be issued within a few days by the division of botany, Department of Agriculture, a bulletin on "Stock Poisoning Plants in Montana." This work is being printed by authority of an act of Congress passed at the last session. It is said at the Department of Agriculture that the bo will soon be available for distribution.

Personal Mention Mr. and Mrs. Donald C. MacLeod, the latter the pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of this city, have gone to Meadville to attend the funeral services of Mrs. Mac-Leod's father, W. P. Porter, who died Monday evening last.

INTERPRETING THE LAW AT THE WHITE HOUSE GRAND RIVER RISING TURK IN BAD PLIGHT IN FAVOR OF FREE CUBA

The President's Coming Trip to That Much Additional Rise Will Revolt in Asia Minor Assumes New England.

The number of congressional visitors to the White House is dwindling each day, showing that the statesmen are gradually getting away from the city to their homes. The list of callers today was smaller than for some time, but even then was considerable, among the senators being Culberson, Elkins, Scott, Lodge, Wetmore and Mitchell of Oregon. Senator Mitchell paid his first call on the President since election by the Oregon legislature. He talked over a few matters pertaining to appointments in his state and referred to the President's coming visit to the Pacific coast.

It is learned today that the President still lacks one name of completing the St. Louis exposition commission. The eight men who have been selected, it may be stated, are ex-Senators Carter, McBride, Thurston and Lindsay, ex-Representatives Allen of Mississippi and Glynn of New York: Prof. Cyrus Northrop of Minnesota and E. D. Scott of Arkansas. This arrangement gives four republicans and four democrats so far selected. The ninth man will be a republican. The contest for this place lies between F. A. Betts of Connecticut, C. N. Miller of Indiana and another candidate. There has never been any probability that ex-Representative John Allen of Mississippi would not be named on the commis-The President promised this appointment to members of the House before the bill providing for the commission became a

The appointment of E. D. Scott of Arkanwho has been pressing Mr. Scott's name.

The President's New England Trip. Senator Lodge of Massachusetts saw the President today with reference to the details of his New England trip in June next, after his return from the Pacific coast. The President expects to attend the class day exercises at Wesleyan June 25 and commencement exercises at Harvard the following day. On Thursday of the same week he will visit Concord and Lexington as the guest of Senator Hoar. Saturday and Sunday he will be the guest of Senator McMillan of Michigan at Manchester-on-the-Sea, and Monday he will spend at Nahant with Senator Lodge. Thence he will be taken across the bay on a government warship to Hingham, the home of Secretary Long. In all it is expected that the President's New England trip will cover Mrs. McKinley will accompany the President. At Worcester the President will be enter-

by ex-Representative Walker, who was a caller at the White House today. West Virginia Appointments. Senators Elkins and Scott, accompanied by Maj. C. D. Elliott and other West Virginians, saw and discussed with the President a number of appointments in their state. A new federal district was created by the last Congress, providing a new judge, marshal, district attorney and other officers. Ex-Gov. Atkinson, the leading candidate for judge to this time, is being strongly fought on all sides, and there is now said to be doubt of his appointment. President suggested to the two senators that they get together and recommend the persons most suitable and desirable for the places. He suggested that this be done

before he leaves for California, the last of next month. The appointments are about definitely decided upon. John K. Thompson, the present marshal of West Virginia, will be appointed to the same position in the new district. In the old district the marshalship will go to Major C. D. Elliott.

Representative Corliss of Michigan talked with the President about several matters in his district. Mr. Corliss wants a place in the regular army for Captain Fenton. now in the commissary department of the army. Calvin Chase had what was described as

a satisfactory conference with the President about a District matter.

Mr. Langley's Chances

John W. Langley, appointment clerk of the census bureau, had a conference with the President today. Mr. Langley is backed in the strongest manner for district attorney of the new federal district of Kentucky. In and out of his state influential friends have urged the President to appoint him. It is believed that Mr. Langley's appointment would be certain if Senator Deoe and Representative Boreing had not indorsed Judge Tinsley for the position. The fact that these two men are insisting on Judge Tinsley's appointment is the only thing that operates against Mr. Langley, whose standing at the White House is of the highest. If Mr. Langley doesn't get the district attorneyship he will be given a position of honor in some other department of the government when he desires

MR. McKIM ACCEPTS.

Will Be a Member of the Park Commission. Mr. Charles McKim of McKim, Mead &

it. That is the earnest desire of a large

number of strong republicans, and is the

President's inclination.

White of New York has accepted his appointment as a member of the park commission to devise a comprehensive system of parks for the District of Columbia, and will be ready to enter upon that work in this city in a short time. Senator Mc-Millan designated Mr. J. H. Burnham, the leading architect of the world's fair at Chicago, and Frederick Law Olmsted of Boston as members of this commission, with authority to select a third member A few days ago they invited Mr. McKim to join them in their work, and the latter has now accepted. Mr. McKim has a na tional reputation as an architect and will add great strength to the commission.

Cadets to Sail on the Indiana.

The Navy Department has inaugurated an entirely new policy by designating a firstclass battle ship, the Indiana, for the service of the cadets at the United States Naval Academy. The Indiana is now at the Philadelphia navy yard, where she is to be put in shape for the cadets to go aboard her the latter part of May. Heretofore the cadets have not had the advantage of practical experience upon the best vessels of the navy, and the practical training at Annapolis has been confined to small training ships. With the Indiana, however, the cadets will have training on a ship of the st modern type.

Movements of Naval Vessels. The torpedo boat Winslow, which has

een undergoing repairs to her ferward boiler at the Delaware Breakwater, left that point yesterday for Norfolk, where she will go into reserve
The Sylph returned to Washington last night from Baltimore. The Leyden has arrived at Newport.

Many Congressional Visitors Received | Michigan Towns Along Its Course | Abdul-Hamid Beset by Enemies on Are in Danger.

FAIR COMMISSION SHORT A MEMBER ROSE A FOOT SINCE YESTERDAY HIS EXCHEQUER IS DEPLETED

Do Great Damage.

WEST VIRGINIA OFFICES FACTORIES SHUT DOWN OLD FRIENDS DESERT HIM

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich., March 27 .- The Grand river is nearly a foot higher today than it was vesterday, and is still rising. A score more houses are cut off from land by the waters, and the occupants are using boats. Basements for several blocks back on either side of the river in the business districts are flooded. The list of closed factories along the river is lengthening as the water gradually reaches the fires. A raise of another foot will do serious damage.

LOWELL, Mich., March 27.-The dam which furnished power for the municipal electric light plant, located eight miles above here, on the Grand river, gave way this morning, and when the flood reaches the dam just above the village it will probably also go out. Citizens here are preparing for great damage when the water sweeps by the village. The Flat river, which flows into the Grand at this point, is the highest ever known, and business firms and families are moving off its adjacent lowlands, which are being flooded Grand river is within seven inches of its highest water mark.

Floods at St. Joseph, Mich. ST. JOSEPH, Mich., March 27.-For the econd time this spring the factory district between this city and Benton Harbor is flooded. The river, which is higher than for many years, continues to rise, and apprehension is felt regarding the safety of the bridges.

IONIA, Mich., March 27.-The high water here is reaching the danger point and is steadily on the rise. It is nearly up to the railroad bridges, which are being carefully Three dams along Maple river have gone

out. The dam at Carson City went first. This carried the Hubbardsten dam, and the This carried the Hubbardston dam, and the water did \$2,000 damage to the property of residents in that village. The Matherton dam was the third to go. All this water has been making trouble here. The water is over the highway, both sides of the upper hidden. Floods in New York, Too.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., March 27 .- Rivers and lesser streams in western and central New York are greatly swollen, and considerable damage by overflows are reported. A dispatch from Genesee says the Genesee river at that point rose six feet during the night and is still rising. The flats are covered to the depth of four to five feet over the high water mark. Great damage has been done to farmers. Tributaries to the streams throughout the val ley are rushing torrents and hourly swell the volume of the Genesee,

DIPLOMACY WILL BE USED.

The Cruiser New York Ordered to Proceed to Manila.

Secretary Long today cabled an order to Admiral Rodgers, on board the New York at Tangier, to proceed at once with that vessel to Manila. This is an abandonment of the plan to have the New York convey United States Consul General Gummere from Tangier to Mazagan in the attempt to collect claims. It is the purpose of the State Department to endeavor to adjust these claims against Morocco and other outstanding issues without any show of force and in the ordinary practice of diplomacy.

It is said that the United States consul general, who had conceived that obstacles were purposely placed in the way of his access to the court, has received assurances that the actual reason for the departure of the court from Morocco was to pay a longdue visit to another section of the country. It was also promised that the court would return, within a month or six we ould receive Mr. Gummere, probably even at Mazagan, thus obviating the necessity on his part for an overland journey to the capital. In this view of the case, the New ork being badly needed in the east to take the place of the Newark as a flagship, it was decided to let the vessel proceed at once on her voyage.

Mr. Gummere will probably now enter into fresh communication with the Moorish government to secure another appointment for averted in that quarter of the globe. The delay will probably make no difference, provided the necessary explanations are forded for the treatment of our consul and provision be made for settling the claims. These are not very large in the aggregate probably \$60,000 will cover them all, or less than half an indemnity that was summarily collected by Germany a short time ago on a precisely similar class of claims.

RECEIVED FROM THE CONTROLLER The Protest Against Payments to the

Driggs-Seabury Company. The War Department has received from the controller of the treasury the protest

filed in the Treasury Department against any further payments being made to the Driggs-Seabury Company on account of the alleged delayed delivery of guns for which that company had contracted. The protest is made by Hopkins & Company, attorneys of the American Ordnance Company. Secretary Root has not taken the matter up for consideration, and may not for some time yet, as it is a question that can hardly be settled until another payment is due the Driggs-Senbury Company.

FIGHTING THE PLACE.

Systematic Inspection at Manila-Increase at Cape Town. Marine hospital service reports from Ma nila show for the week ending February an increase of six cases and four deaths from plague, four Filipinos and two Chinese being the victims. The board of health has the city divided into districts, each district being inspected daily. The plague cases are thus discovered early. The reports state that reliable information of every case of sickness among the Chinese is secured through the co-operation of the Chinese themselves.

Passed Assistant Surgeon Thomas, at London, reports that there has been a further increase in the number of plague cases at Cape Town. On February 23 there were twenty-one cases remaining under treatment, and there had been a total of seven deaths. "It would seem from re-ports," says Surgeon Thomas, "that the in-fection of Cape Town was carried by dis-eased rats, and an active crusade is being waged against these redents."

From Singapore three cases of plague were reported between February 22 and 24. were twenty-one cases remaining

Government receipts from internal revenue doday, \$888,520; customs, \$639,249; mis-cellaneous, \$8,640. Expenditures, \$1,035,000.

All Sides.

Dangerous Proportions.

LONDON, March 27 .- Advices received here from Constantinople are to the effect that affairs are rapidly reaching a dan-

gerous pass there.

Turkish finances are in inextricable confusion. All government salaries are from six to eight months in arrears. Upwards of a million Turkish pounds are due for war material, while the military expenditure is daily increasing, in order to cope with the rebellion in the province of Yemen, in southern Arabia, and the possible rising in Macedonia

There is no doubt that the Ottoman troops received a severe check at the hands of the Arab insurgents, who, in a manifesto denouncing the sultan, proclaimed his brother, Mohammed-Reshad Effendi, to be sultan, with the title of Mohammed V. The young Turks party have adhered to the Arabian proclamation, and the open en-mity to Abdul-Hamid, the sultan, has spread to the palace and the sultan's advisers. Izzet Bey is said to be preparing for flight. The patrols of Constantinople have been doubled. Mohammedans and Christians are arrested hourly, and large numbers are daily shipped to Asia Minor. The tension between Bulgarians and Mussulmans in Macedonia is extreme. It is reported that another band of marauders has crossed Bulgaria into Macedonia.

WILL ASK IMMEDIATE TRIAL. E. G. Rathbone's Attorneys Not Sure

of Getting New Bail. HAVANA, March 27 .- E. G. Rathbone, former director general of posts in Cuba who is now out on bail under charges of fraudulent practices and whose rearrest

given an opportunity to secure another bondsman before the order for his rearrest is carried out. His attorneys are hopeful of getting new bail, but the large amount required and the difficulties experienced upon the last oc-casion that bail was obtained make the result doubtful. In any event, the attor-ncys will ask for an immediate trial.

has been ordered because his bondsman

refused to continue on his bond, will be

CLAIMANT TO RICE ESTATE. Muncie, Ind., Tailor Claims to Be a

Grandson. BELLEFONTAINE, Ohio, March 27 .-Carl Carlson, a Muncie, Indiana, tailor, is the Porto Ricans.

"I found by careful inquiry that the busien route to New York, where it is stated he estate left by Wm. Marsh Rice. According to Carlson's story, his mother separated from her first husband and married John H. Rice, only son of the dead millionaire. Carlson claims he is Rice's son, and was so recognized before Rice and his mother died, although he has always borne the name of his mother's first husband.

MINERS AND OPERATORS AGREE.

New Scale Goes Into Effect April 1 at Massillon. MASSILLON, Ohio, March 27,-The miners and operators of this district reached an agreement today, and a new scale will go into effect April 1. The operators gained some alterations in the working rules, but all changes, representing dollars and cents, are in the miners' favor. The most important are an advance of two cents a car for slack, a reduction of ter cents per keg in the price of powder, and a reduction of ten cents per ton in the price of house coal.

BALTIMORE CONFERENCE MEETS. Opening Session at Hagerstown De voted to Preliminary Work.

Special Dispatch to The Evening Star. HAGERSTOWN, Md., March 27,-the one hundred and seventeenth annual session of the Baltimore conference, Methodist Episcopal Church, opened in St. Paul's M. E. Church, Hagerstown, this morning under auspicious circumstances. Bishop siding. The roll-call showed 160 ministers present, but more arrived during the day, and this afternoon there are about 200 ministers in the city.

The opening session was devoted almost entirely to preliminary work, the appointment of committees, and so forth. Rev. George F. Maydell of Washington was elected secretary, but as illness will prevent his attendance his place will be filled Herbert, first assistant secretary of Baltimore.

In order to determine the exact age the Baltimore conference, which question has been agitating Methodism for years, a resolution was adopted directing Bishop Cranston to appoint a committee with a similar committee from the Baltimore annual conference of the M. E. Church South. This joint committee will make a thorough investigation of the rec ords and report to the conference one year

versary of the Woman's Home Missionary Society was celebrated. Rev. Dr. J. Wesley Hill of Harrisburg delivered the prin cipal address.

At 2:30 o'clock this afternoon the anni-

WILL NOT MARRY A CATHOLIC. Crown Prince Friedrich Wilhelm's Matrimonial Intentions. BERLIN, March 27 .- The Cologne Gazette

says regarding the rumors that the Crown Prince Friedrich Wilhelm intends to marry an Austrian princess, that the Gazette is reliably informed that the crown prince will, in no circumstances, marry a Cath olic, but either a German or an English princess.

BITTER WEATHER IN EUROPE. LONDON, March 27.-The weather in

Europe continues as bitter as ever. There is frost and snow everywhere. Seven to ten degrees of frost were registered in the London suburbs early this morning. There is considerable thickness of ice on the Heavy snow storms have swept over northern France, and there are several inches of snow in the streets of Paris.

BIG FIRE AT HUNTINGTON, W. VA. One Fireman Killed and

Seriously Wounded. HUNTINGTON, W. Va., March 27 .- Se non, Blake & Stevenson's wholesale grocery burned today. Loss, \$100,000; insurance,

Fireman John Wright was killed by falling walls. Fireman Wm. Sturgeon was seriously in-jured.

REPRESENTATIVE STEVENS' IM-PRESSIONS ON HIS RECENT TRIP.

Opposed to the Establishment of a Protectorate and to

Annexation.

Representative Frederick G. Stevens of Minnesota, a member of the committee on military affairs, has just returned from a trip to Porto Rico and Cuba, his visit having been of longer duration than the other members of the party which left New York March 6. Mr. Stevens takes a somewhat different view from the majority of representatives who have visited the islands. In his opinion nothing less than "Cuba Libre" will solve the problem of dealing with that island. Mr. Stevens says that the commercial conditions which must be established between Cuba and the United States will eventually make the establishment of an American protectorate or annexation impossible and altogether out of the question.
"Cuba," said Mr. Stevens, "can produce

four-fifths of the sugar consumed by the United States. With the wonderful reources of the island for growing cane, and the introduction of modern machinery for its manufacture into sugar, it will not be very long before the production of that commodity will be attracting the attention of the world. I saw enough to satisfy me that the undeveloped resources of Cuba in the production of sugar and tobacco are attracting capital, and already hundreds of new plantations are being worked, and new appliances for the manufacture of sugar are being shipped daily to the cities of the island.

"Those people can produce sugar at little more than one-half the cost that the at a great deal less than the cane sugar of our southern states can be manufactured. The beet sugar industry of our country is already attaining very substantial propor-tions. I have just been looking over the special census bulletin prepared on that subject, and was surprised to find how extensive this industry has become during Menace to Our Beet Sugar Industry.

annexation must be the outcome will consider this matter of sugar alone, to say nothing of tobacco, I am certain they will see the difficulties we would run into by placing a protecting arm around these tropenough to supply the United States and the output this year will be upward of one million tons. Suppose the annexation or the protectorate policy prevails, where would this leave the beet sugar of the north and the cane sugar industry of the south? "But let us go a little further. How would it affect our trade with Germany in the event this country absorbs the sugar production of Cuba? We are now a heavy purchaser of German sugar. Would not that country retaliate quickly against our western farm products, our flour, our meats, our fruits and many other commodities? We must place the same responsibilities on the Cubans that we have upon

ness element of Cuba, lating fellows who see fortunes ahead in sugar and tobacco, do not really and independent Cuba, although on the surface they profess to be very But I observed that they qualify all of their statements with the sal demand of 'commercial reciprocity' be-

tween Uncle Sam and Cuba. Want American Markets. "We should place the responsibility upon

them of local government, as embodied in the Platt amendment, with possibly some modifications. The situation I will admit is a peculiar one. The business and commercial interests are looking to us to deal very liberally with the natives-the laboring and peasant classes-and at the same time open up our markets to the tition of labor worth less than half of what is paid in the United States, and to place some of our growing industries in oper competition with those where nature deals with a liberal if not a most lavish hand "Of course there would be turmoil and trouble at first under a home government But every nation has its ups and downs. Our own country went through many vicissitudes. I took pains to study conditions in Porto Rico and Cuba and make a com parison. The one is a country where the responsibility of government has been placed on the people; the other where the military rule is still dominant. We may have been a little hasty in establishing government in Porto Rico, but in the end it is certain to become popular, and the people will be prosperous and content-Regarding the Cubans he said: "I believe the Platt amendment will be accepted. If given peace for twenty years, the richness of that country will h derful. The Van Horn rallroad syndicate is spending millions there now, and is taking chances on the future of the island. On the whole our trip was one of the most interesting that I have ever taken, and my only regret is that owing to the quarantine reg-ulations our party had to leave too soon."

Naval and Military Exhibition.

The Department of State has received a prospectus of the naval and military exhibition to be opened at the Crystal Palace, Sydenham, May 2, comprising exhibits in connection with the transport and equipment of the army and navy, progress in naval architecture in its application to pur-poses of national defense and commerce, etc. Those interested are invited to hibit. The exhibition will remain open five months.

Army Orders. Captain George L. Hicks, jr., assistan

surgeon, recently promoted, has been assigned to the 88th Volunteer Infantry. Lieutenant Colonel E. D. Dimmick, 2d Cavalry, has been granted leave of absence for one month.

Major S. O. Beasley, surgeon, United

States volunteers, and Captain J. C. Reifsnyder, assistant surgeon, United States volunteers, recently appointed, have been ordered to San Francisco for assignment to duty in the Philippines Assistant Surgeon C. J. Bartlett has been relieved from further duty in the Department of Alaska and ordered to San Fran-

Prof. C. F. Chandler Designated. Mr. St. Clair McKelway of Brooklyn has declined the tender of a place on the board

of visitors of the United States naval observatory, and Secretary Long has designated for the place Prof. Charles F. Chandler of Columbia University, New York, who

Will Address the Middlesex Club. Assistant Secretary of the Navy Hackett and Rear Admiral Robley D. Evans left Washington today for Boston, where they will both address the Middlesex Club at a banquet tomorrow night.

Gone to View the Eclipse. The gunboat General Alava, with the eclipse observation party from the Smithsonian Institution on board, left Cavite, P. I., yesterday for Sumatra.

yard and Wm. C. Taylor of the Washington navy yard, sons of Mr. Taylor of the War Department, have been assigned to duty on the hospital ship Solace, which is fitting out at San Franscisco for a cruise to the Philippines.

Going to the Philippines

man's paper, because it gives him the latest news,-the news of today, not yesterday. Hence, to reach him, advertise in The

The Star is the business

MR. COOPER ON CUBA

Result of His Observations on the Island.

MUST BE FREE FOR AWHILE Feeling of Business Men on the

Subject. GEN. WOOD'S GOOD WORK

Representative Cooper of Wisconsin, who was chairman of the House committee on insular affairs in the last Congress, and undoubtedly will resume that position in the next Congress, has returned from a trip to Cuba which he undertook to investigate for himself the conditions existing in the island. The committee on insular affairs will have jurisdiction of legislation in the House relating to Cuba, and Mr. Cooper, as the prospective chairman, desires to have personal acquaintance with the situation, In an interview with a Star reported today Mr. Cooper announced his belief that the prophecies of trouble and insurrection

in Cuba will prove groundless; that the Platt amendment will finally be accepted; that American occupation of the island should be continued for awhile, and that the Cuban republic is inevitable. Will Accept the Platt Amendment. "The Cuban constitutional convention,

will, I believe, accept the Platt amendment," he said. "It is my impression that the objection to it is quite as much to the manner and form of its presentation to them as to the substance. I was assured, several times, by those in a position to know the sentiments of the members of the convention, that if a committee of the con-vention had been invited to come to Washington for the purpose of conferring with President McKinley and his cabinet everything of importance in the amendment might have been secured through negotia-"Now, if our friends who believe that tion. They declared that the present proceeding was too abrupt and evinced too little of courteous regard to their feelings. However, I think that the slight sense of ical industries. Cuba can produce sugar irritation thus aroused is rapidly passing away, and that in due time the Platt amendment will be accepted.

> lic must come, the highest welfare of the island will be subserved by a little longer delay and a little more experience in administering the various local governments as well as opportunity for the expiring embers of passion engendered by the wat "In Cuba, prompt acquiescence in the will of the majority constitutionally expressed.

"While I believe that the Cuban repub-

a written constitution with a court to in-terpret it and whose adjudications must be accepted as authoritative, are in practice unknown, although they are vitally essen-tial to the stability of the coming repub-

government, but as a sincere friend of that long-suffering people I would advise them not to enter upon that great experiment with too precipitate haste.

Facts of the Situation. "During the eight days I was in Cuba I endeavored, as far as practicable, to get at the facts of the situation, and to that end visited as many places and met as many people, in and out of Havana, as possible. I went to the wharves, to shops, cafes, stores and business offices, and conversed with merchants, workingmen, insurance agents, bankers, lawyers and planters, with Cubans and Spaniards, men and women, with United States army cers, with civilians from the United States

the members of the constitutional convention. The experience was interesting and instructive. "I have never seen a more quiet con munity, nor one apparently more peaceful they were quite constant, day and nightthe slightest drunkenness or disorder. The people everywhere were most hospitable and kind. The Spaniards, I am sure, are annexationists. But, the Cubans, with practical, though not entire, unanimity, are for 'Cuba Libre.' They have a pride of nationality, a feel-

of self-government, and to establish the republic of Cuba.
"This feeling was forcibly expressed to evening by a Cuban whom I visited at his offices, which, by the way, were handsome, with everything systematized to the last detail. He is a highly-educated man, very successful in business, a gradu-ate of one of the leading universities of the United States, an admirer of our institutions, with sympathies all strongly pro-American. During our conversation I said that, in my opinion, Cuba would be vastly more happy and prosperous annexed to the United States than she could be if

ing that they want to try the experiment

Want Cuba Free for Awhile.

"He replied that he had, himself, long entertained the same belief, that he still entertained it, 'but,' he added, 'I want to see Cuba free at least for awhile, just to show the world that we are civilized beings and not all bandits, ingrates, thieves and scoundrels, generally, as is alleged by some of our defamers.' He then spoke with feeling of the indiscriminate abuse heaped upon the Cubans by certain newsrs and individuals outside of Cuba.

"I heard a similar complaint repeated nexationists. And this has led me to pelieve that while annexation will come some day, yet that it has been sensibly delayed by the unwise, contemptuous, an-ger-provoking abuse of which these Cubans nplained. There is another thing which has interfered with the immediate success of the annexation sentiment. It was brought to my attention in a way quite

the mother of which, as also one of her sons, was educated in the United States. During the visit I remarked that the ad ministration of President McKinley and the people of the United States the people of the United States generally, felt very kindly toward the Cubans, and that I was sure that the officials who had been sent to the island were anxious only to help the Cuban people. The old lady smiled, and said, with gentle suavity: bone. Innocent or gullty, there is no denying the injury done American prestige and influence, and the cause of annexation itself, by the miserable Neely-Rathbone enisade. Every day I heard it with the control of the Every day I heard it referred to. We were in Cuba as the champions of free-dom, to succor the oppressed, and to set before them a noble example of honest high-minded civil administration.

Cuban-and that means of the great mass of the population-we were revealed as simple grabbers after money, embezzlers, treasury looters, who, with the Spaniard's opportunity, would do just what the Spanlard had done. Of course, this generalization was too broad, and it did us a very great injustice, but it was only natural that it should be made.
"However, this feeling is being modified

uddenly, to the mind of the average

"However, this feeling is being modified by the reflection that it was the administration itself which caused the arrests and is carrying on the prosecution. But the long delay is not understood, and it is not strange if it be misinterpreted. The discovery of the crime, if any, was made nearly a year ago. Neely has been back in Cuba with the other defendants for two months, and yet not even a preliminary. Harry C. Taylor of the New York navy months, and yet not even a preliminary hearing has been had. On these facts it is